



UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Summary February 22, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mark Firley and introductions were done. New board members Ian Weston and William Roberts were introduced.

The meeting summary from December 14, 2016 was approved unanimously (motion by L. Moore; seconded by R. Nelson).

Update from the County Council – Sharon St. Pierre from County Councilmember Rice’s office announced that the Montgomery Village Master Plan was unanimously adopted recently. The Council town hall meeting for Clarksburg has been rescheduled for March 2, 2016. The realignment construction of Stringtown Road will begin in March and will last for two years. Also, Councilmember Rice, MCPS Interim Superintendent Larry Bowers, and Montgomery College President Dr. DeRionne Pollard will be hosting school-related budget forums.

Warren Hansen from County Councilmember Berliner’s office announced that on March 8, 2016, there will be a Council debriefing on the snow blizzard of 2016 to discuss what went wrong and right.

Update from Upcounty Regional Director – Regional Director Catherine Matthew’s Assistant, Chiffon Smith, mentioned that the board would be sending three or four priorities for the 2017 Operating Budget to County Executive Leggett to consider in his recommended budget. His recommended budget will be submitted to the County Council on March 15, 2016.

Discussion: The Montgomery County Charter Review Commission- Commission Chair Paul Bessel discussed the legislative powers of the County Council and that legislation adopted by the Council with some exceptions, can be petitioned to referendum, by a petition of five percent of the registered voters in the County. Mr. Bessel stated that he is happy to get comments from residents as to the changes in the charter and any suggestions they may have. He mentioned that all meetings are open to the public and are at 8:00 am during the week.

Discussion: Upcounty’s Priorities for Upcoming Operating Budget- Board members discussed topics and possible priorities for the 2017 Operating Budget focusing on specific topics of concern to the Upcounty community. The topics were in the areas of economic development, maintaining the school Maintenance of Effort funding (MOE), affordable housing, and protecting the Agricultural Reserve. It was agreed unanimously to submit these four priorities to the County Executive. (motion by T. Printz-Platnick; seconded by K. Linck).

Chair’s Report – none.

Committee / Liaison Reports – none.

Community Concerns/Comments – none.

The meeting was adjourned (motion by T. Printz-Platnick; seconded by K. Linck).

Board Attendance: Dennis Barnes, Brian Donohue, Arthur Edmunds, Mark Firley, Mamady Kamara, Darlene Kerr, Linda Moore, Robert Nelson, Tobi Printz-Platnick, William Roberts, David Rosenbaum, Pat Seals, Ian Weston, and Joel Yesley.

Additional Guests: Warren Hansen (Councilmember Berliner); Sharon St. Pierre (Councilmember Rice); Chief Scott Goldstein (MC Fire Dept.); and Neville Levi.

Staff: Chiffon Smith